

## **City of Gaithersburg Press Release**

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For Immediate Release

## March Declared Good Sportsmanship Month in Gaithersburg

Gaithersburg, MD – (March 3, 2020) March was officially declared Good Sportsmanship Month in the City of Gaithersburg, recognizing the major influence that sports programs play in our society, encouraging the promotion of good sportsmanship, and fostering the development of positive characteristics for physical fitness and personal growth. The proclamation was made during the March 2, 2020, Mayor and City Council Meeting, and was received by Sports and Youth Services Division Chief Asante Kufuor and Program Supervisor Adam Zuckerman.

Noting that elements of sportsmanship reflect crucial life skills that individuals will carry with them through their education and into the workplace, sportsmanship has also been known to combat bullying and promote inclusion by providing a safe and healthy environment for all competitors. The <u>Gaithersburg Sports</u> program emphasizes participation over competition creating an environment where all youth can achieve. Sports Supervisors organize programs where coaches and staff build and encourage sportsmanship at all levels.

In 2006, the Mayor and City Council adopted the Arizona Sports Summit Accords for Raising the Standards in Youth Sports. The Accord was the product of a Summit conducted by the Josephson Institute on Ethics, which administers the <a href="CHARACTER COUNTS!">CHARACTER COUNTS!</a> Program, in which the City has been an active participant for the last 24 years. The Pillars of CHARACTER COUNTS! are incorporated into all aspects of Gaithersburg Sports.

Senior Recreation Program Supervisor Dave Ludington, who also serves as Acting President of the <u>Mid-Atlantic Recreation and Parks Sports Alliance</u>, accepted a proclamation from Governor Larry Hogan recognizing March as Good Sportsmanship Month in the State of Maryland. The proclamation was received during the <u>Maryland Recreation and Parks Association's annual awards luncheon held on February 27 in Baltimore.</u>

Explore all of our Gaithersburg Sports programs <u>here</u>. For more information visit <u>www.gaithersburgmd.gov</u> or call 301-258-6350.